Expenditure of education

46. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have not been spending 6 per cent of GDP on education so far;

(b) what was the percentage of GDP being spent on education during the last three years; and

(c) the steps being taken to ensure that at least 5 per cent of GDP is spent on education in the year 2007-08?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (c) The Common Minimum Programme of the Government pledges to increase the public spending in education to at least 6% of GDP in a phased manner with at least half of the amount being spent on primary and secondary education sectors. The percentage of GDP spent on education during 2003-04, 2004-05 & 2005-06 was 3.50%, 3.68% an 3.72% respectively.

Allocation for higher and primary education

47. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the quantum of allocation made and spent on higher and primary education in India during the last five years;

(b) whether, in relation to many of the developed and developing countries, India's spending on education is far less;

(c) if so, the details in this regard and whether it is impacting negatively the literacy augmentation and quality of Research and Development; and

(d) if so, how Government propose to correct the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (d) The quantum of allocation made and spent on higher and elementary education during 2001-02 to 2005-06 is indicated in the

Statement (*See* below), which shows that the Central Plan Allocation for Education has registered a quantum increase during last few years. With a view to ensure adequate funding of the basic education programmes, Government has started levying 2% Education Cess from 2004. The total expenditure on education as percentage of total Government expenditure is quite substantive and during 2005-06 it was 13.1%. Literacy rate of the country has improved from 52.21% in 1991 to 64.84% in 2001 which is an increase of 12.63 percentage point, the highest for any decade so far. The Government in recent past has given due attention to the Research and Development. Two Indian Institutes of Science Education and Research (IISER) at Kolkata, Pune have been set up. IISER at Mohali has been approved. Government had also set up a Task force to suggest the measures required for promotion of research in basic sciences. UGC is taking steps to implement the recommendations of this Committee.

Statement

Allocation and expenditure on Elementary and Higher Education during 2001-02 to 2005-06

(Rs. in crore)

Year	Budget Estimates			Expenditure		
	Plan	Non-Plan	Total	Plan	Non-Plan	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Elementary Education						
2001-01	6489.52	27999.03	34488.55	6098.46	26395.39	32493.85
2002-03	7434.82	28772.04	36206.86	6733.87	26740.46	33474.33
2003-04	8337.51	29292.40	37629.91	8069.22	28296.75	36365.97
2004-05	9780.23	30805.96	40586.19	12005.14	32078.20	44083.34 (RE)
2005-06	16823.50	34128.54	50952.04	NA	NA	NA
Higher Education						
2001-02	990.48	7585.71	8577.19	966.45	7121.27	8087.72
2002-03	1035.04	8188.70	9223.74	1050.39	7809.25	8859.64
2003-04	1037.71	8240.52	9278.23	970.82	8089.33	9060.15
2004-05	1133.26	8428.93	9562.19	1238.13	8760.21	9998.34 (RE)
2005-06	1346.50	9342.01	10688.51	NA	NA	NA

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Technical Education						
2001-02	939.99	1883.19	2823.18	789.35	1771.04	2560.39
2002-03	906.38	2031.07	2937.45	804.64	2015.87	2820.51
2003-04	1076.59	2105.73	3182.32	870.05	1963.03	2833.08
2004-05	1290.78	2096.47	3387.25	1135.82	2139.06	3274.88 (RE)
2005-06	1510.90	2209.16	3720.06	NA	NA	NA

Illiterate mothers of school children

†48. SHRI SURENDRA LATH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that 52.87 per cent mothers of the school going children in the country are illiterate;

(b) if so, the steps taken by Government in the field of adult education during the last three years;

(c) whether it is also a fact that enrolment of children of 6 to 14 years of age in the schools at the national level has declined during 2006; and

(d) if so, the steps Government are taking to register growth in enrolment of children of the above mentioned age group in the schools?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALI ASHRAF FATMI): (a) According to 2001 Census, the literacy rate amongst women was 53.67%.

(b) The National Literacy Mission (NLM) aims at imparting functional literacy to adult illiterates in the 15—35 age-group. The important schemes in NLM include Total Literacy Campaigns for providing basic literacy to adult illiterates, Post Literacy Programme for reinforcement of literacy skills of the neo-literates and Continuing Education Programme for providing life-long educational opportunities. At present, 597 districts have been covered under various literacy programmes. Apart from ongoing literacy programmes, NLM has taken up special female literacy programme during the last three years in Bihar, Orissa and Jharkhand covering a population of 35 lakh women. In addition, some of the State Governments have launched specific initiatives for improving the literacy rates, particularly amongst women. In Andhra Pradesh, "Akshar Bharathi" was launched

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.